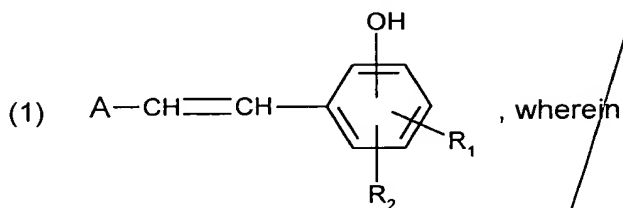
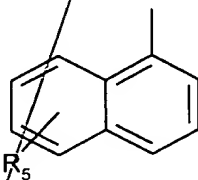


Patent claims

1. Use of hydroxystilbene compounds of formula

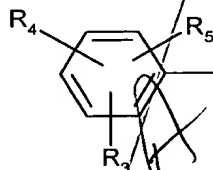


A is a radical of formula (1a)



; or a radical of

formula (1b)



; and

$R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$ ,  $R_4$  and  $R_5$  are each independently of the others hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy,  $C_1$ - $C_{16}$ alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_{16}$ alkoxy, phenyl;  $C_1$ - $C_3$ phenylalkyl;  $C_6$ - $C_{10}$ aryloxy, amino, mono- $C_1$ - $C_5$ alkylamino, di- $C_1$ - $C_5$ alkylamino, or  $-NO_2$ ; in the antimicrobial treatment of surfaces.

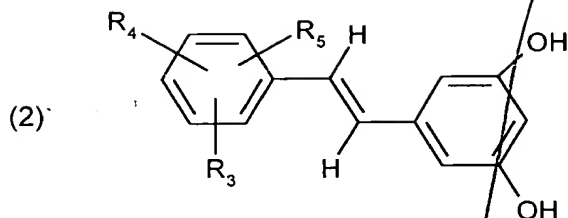
2. Use according to claim 1, wherein, in formulae (1),

$R_1$  and  $R_2$  are hydroxy.

3. Use according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the compounds of formula (1) are present in the E- or Z-form.

4. Use according to claim 3, wherein the compounds of formula (1) are present in the E-form.

5. Use according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein there are used compounds of formula



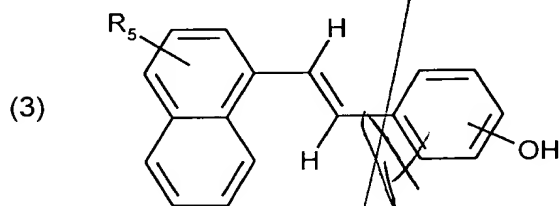
wherein

R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are as defined in claim 1.

6. Use according to claim 5, wherein, in formula (2),

R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are hydrogen.

7. Use according to claim 1, wherein there are used compounds of formula



wherein

R<sub>5</sub> is as defined for formula (1).

8. Use of the compound of formula (1) in the antimicrobial treatment, deodorisation and disinfection of the skin, mucosa and hair.

9. Use according to claim 8, wherein the compound of formula (1) is used in disinfection and deodorisation.

10. Use of the compound of formula (1) in the treatment of textile fibre materials.

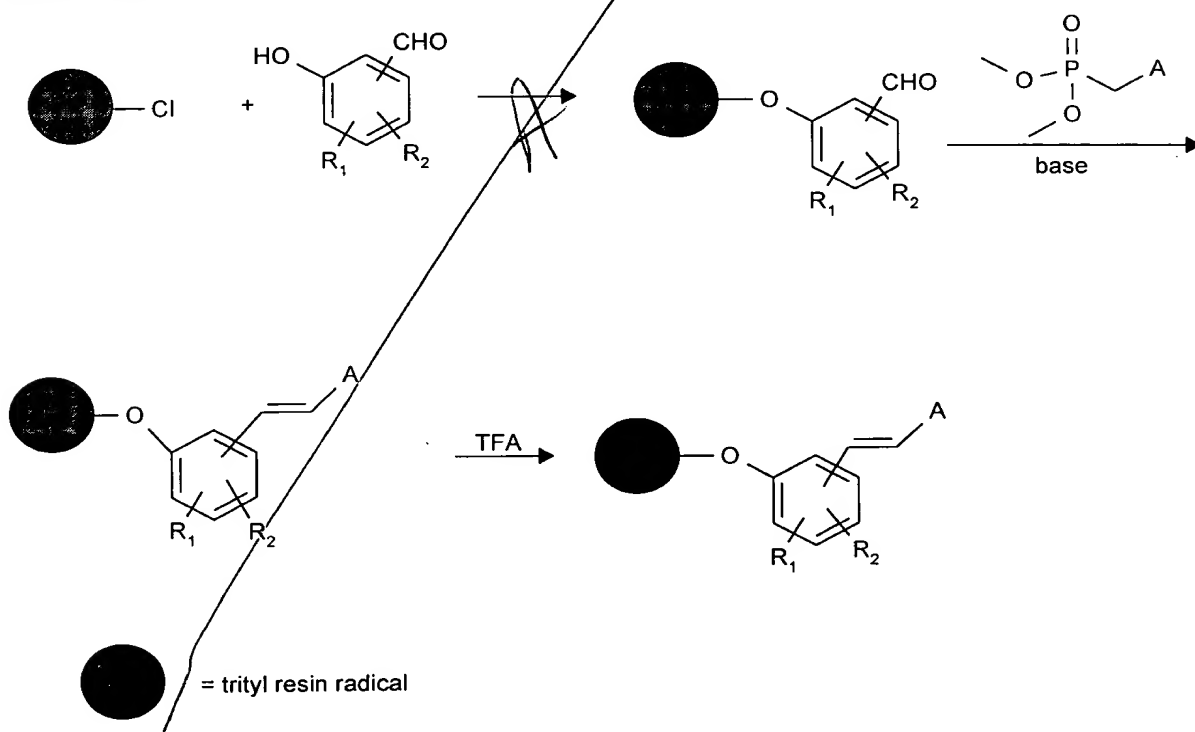
11. Use according to claim 10, wherein the compound of formula (1) is used in preservation.

12. Use of the compound of formula (1) in washing and cleaning formulations.

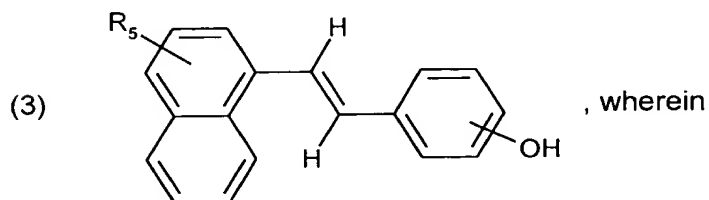
13. Use of the compound of formula (1) in imparting antimicrobial properties to and preserving plastics, paper, nonwovens, wood or leather.

14. A personal care preparation, comprising from 0.01 to 15 % by weight, based on the total weight of the composition, of the compound of formula (1), and cosmetically tolerable adjuvants.

15. A process for the preparation of compounds of formula (1) according to claim 1, which process comprises preparing them in a solid-phase synthesis using a trityl resin in accordance with the following scheme:



16. A compound of formula



17. A compound according to claim 16, wherein

add A1